

1. A method of folding an airbag cushion comprising the steps of:

providing an airbag cushion having a longitudinal fill chamber in fluid communication with a contact chamber, the chambers each having an inboard face and an outboard face;

5 flattening the inboard face of the airbag cushion against the outboard face of the airbag cushion;

compression-folding the contact chamber portion of the airbag cushion; and

10 pleat-folding the inboard face and the outboard face of the longitudinal fill chamber portion of the airbag cushion.

2. The method of claim 1, wherein the step of pleat-folding the inboard face and the outboard face of the longitudinal fill chamber portion of the airbag cushion comprises producing a single pleat in the inboard face of the airbag cushion and a single pleat in the outboard face of the airbag cushion.

15 3. The method of claim 2, wherein the step of pleat-folding the inboard face and the outboard face of the longitudinal fill chamber portion is followed by the step of wrapping the pleat of the inboard face and the pleat of the outboard face about the compression-folded contact chamber portion of the airbag cushion.

20 4. The method of claim 2, wherein the step of pleat-folding the inboard face and the outboard face of the longitudinal fill chamber portion of the airbag cushion is

followed by a step of folding the pleat of the inboard face and the pleat of the outboard face away from the compression-folded contact chamber portion of the airbag cushion.

5        5. The method of claim 4, wherein the step of folding the pleat of the inboard face and the pleat of the outboard face away from the compression-folded contact chamber portion of the airbag cushion is followed by a step of placing the compression-folded contact chamber portion of the airbag cushion against the inboard pleat of the airbag cushion.

10        6. The method of claim 5, wherein the step of compression-folding the contact chamber portion of the inflatable curtain airbag cushion comprises roll-folding the airbag cushion.

7. The method of claim 6, wherein roll-folding the airbag cushion comprises rolling the contact chamber portion of the airbag cushion toward the inboard face of the airbag cushion.

15        8. The method of claim 6, wherein roll-folding the airbag cushion comprises rolling the contact chamber portion of the airbag cushion toward the outboard face of the airbag cushion.

9. The method of claim 4, wherein the step of folding the pleat of the inboard face and the pleat of the outboard face away from the compression-folded contact chamber portion of the airbag cushion is followed by a step of placing the compression-

folded contact chamber portion of the airbag cushion against the outboard pleat of the airbag cushion.

10. The method of claim 9, wherein the step of compression-folding the contact chamber portion of the inflatable curtain airbag cushion comprises roll-folding the airbag cushion.

11. The method of claim 10, wherein roll-folding the airbag cushion comprises rolling the contact chamber portion of the airbag cushion toward the inboard face of the airbag cushion.

12. The method of claim 10, wherein roll-folding the airbag cushion comprises rolling the contact chamber portion of the airbag cushion toward the outboard face of the airbag cushion.

13. The method of claim 2, wherein the step of pleat-folding the inboard face and the outboard face of the longitudinal fill chamber portion of the airbag cushion is followed by a step of folding the pleat of the inboard face and the pleat of the outboard face of the longitudinal fill chamber toward the contact chamber portion of the airbag cushion.

14. The method of claim 13, wherein the step of folding the pleat of the inboard face and the pleat of the outboard face of the longitudinal fill chamber away from the contact chamber portion of the airbag cushion is followed by a step of placing the

compression-folded contact chamber portion of the airbag cushion against the inboard pleat of the longitudinal fill chamber of the airbag cushion.

15. The method of claim 14, wherein the step of compression-folding the contact chamber portion of the inflatable curtain airbag cushion comprises roll-folding the airbag cushion.

16. The method of claim 15, wherein roll-folding the airbag cushion comprises rolling the contact chamber portion of the airbag cushion toward the inboard face of the airbag cushion.

17. The method of claim 15, wherein roll-folding the airbag cushion comprises rolling the contact chamber portion of the airbag cushion toward the outboard face of the airbag cushion.

18. The method of claim 13, wherein the step of folding the pleat of the inboard face and the pleat of the outboard face of the longitudinal fill chamber toward the attachment edge of the airbag cushion is followed by a step of placing the compression-folded contact chamber portion of the longitudinal fill chamber of the airbag cushion against the outboard pleat of the airbag cushion.

19. The method of claim 18, wherein the step of compression-folding the contact chamber portion of the inflatable curtain airbag cushion comprises roll-folding the airbag cushion.

20. The method of claim 19, wherein roll-folding the airbag cushion comprises rolling the contact chamber portion of the airbag cushion toward the inboard face of the airbag cushion.

21. The method of claim 19, wherein roll-folding the airbag cushion comprises rolling the contact chamber portion of the airbag cushion toward the outboard face of the airbag cushion.

22. A method of folding an inflatable curtain airbag cushion comprising the steps of:

providing an inflatable curtain airbag cushion having an attachment edge, a distal edge and a longitudinal fill chamber in fluid communication with a contact chamber, the chambers each having an inboard face and an outboard face;

flattening the inboard face of the airbag cushion against the outboard face of the airbag cushion;

compression-folding the contact chamber portion of the airbag cushion;

and

pleat-folding the inboard face and the outboard face of the longitudinal fill chamber portion of the airbag cushion.

23. The method of claim 22, wherein the step of pleat-folding the inboard face and the outboard face of the longitudinal fill chamber portion of the airbag cushion comprises producing a single pleat in the inboard face of the airbag cushion and a single pleat in the outboard face of the longitudinal fill chamber portion of the airbag cushion.

24. The method of claim 23, wherein the step of pleat-folding the inboard face and the outboard face of the longitudinal fill chamber portion is followed by the step of wrapping the pleat of the inboard face and the pleat of the outboard face of the longitudinal fill chamber portion about the compression-folded contact chamber portion of the airbag cushion.

25. The method of claim 23, wherein the step of pleat-folding the inboard face and the outboard face of the longitudinal fill chamber portion of the airbag cushion is followed by a step of folding the pleat of the inboard face and the pleat of the longitudinal fill chamber outboard face toward the attachment edge of the airbag cushion.

26. The method of claim 25, wherein the step of folding the pleat of the inboard face and the pleat of the outboard face of the longitudinal fill chamber toward the attachment edge of the airbag cushion is followed by a step of placing the compression-folded contact chamber portion of the airbag cushion against the inboard pleat of the longitudinal fill chamber of the airbag cushion.

27. The method of claim 25, wherein the step of folding the pleat of the inboard face and the pleat of the outboard face of the longitudinal fill chamber toward the attachment edge of the airbag cushion is followed by a step of placing the compression-folded contact chamber portion of the airbag cushion against the outboard pleat of the longitudinal fill chamber of the airbag cushion.

28. The method of claim 22, wherein the step of compression-folding the contact chamber portion of the inflatable curtain airbag cushion comprises roll-folding the contact chamber portion of the airbag cushion from the distal edge of the airbag cushion toward the attachment edge of the airbag cushion.

5           29. The method of claim 28, wherein roll-folding the contact chamber portion of the airbag cushion from the distal edge toward the attachment edge comprises rolling the contact chamber portion of the airbag cushion toward the inboard face of the airbag cushion.

10           30. The method of claim 28, wherein roll-folding the contact chamber portion of the airbag cushion from the distal edge toward the attachment edge comprises rolling the contact chamber portion of the airbag cushion toward the outboard face of the airbag cushion.

          31. A method of folding an inflatable curtain airbag cushion comprising the steps of:

15           providing an inflatable curtain airbag cushion having an attachment edge, a distal edge, a longitudinal fill chamber in fluid communication with a contact chamber, the chambers each having an inboard face and an outboard face;

          flattening the inboard face of the airbag cushion against the outboard face of the airbag cushion;

20           compression-folding the contact chamber portion of the airbag cushion;

pleat-folding the inboard face and the outboard face of the longitudinal fill chamber portion of the airbag cushion to produce a single pleat in the inboard face of the airbag cushion and a single pleat in the outboard face of the airbag cushion; and

5           wrapping the pleat of the inboard face and the outboard face of the longitudinal fill chamber about the compression-folded contact chamber portion of the airbag cushion.

32. A method of folding an inflatable curtain airbag cushion comprising the steps of:

10           providing an inflatable curtain airbag cushion having an attachment edge, a distal edge, a longitudinal fill chamber in fluid communication with a contact chamber, the chambers each having an inboard face and an outboard face;

            flattening the inboard face of the airbag cushion against the outboard face of the airbag cushion;

15           compression-folding the contact chamber portion of the airbag cushion;

            pleat-folding the inboard face and the outboard face of the longitudinal fill chamber portion of the airbag cushion to produce a single pleat in the inboard face of the airbag cushion and a single pleat in the outboard face of the airbag cushion; .

            folding the pleat of the inboard face and the pleat of the outboard face away from the compression-folded contact chamber portion of the airbag cushion; and

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placing the compression-folded contact chamber portion of the airbag cushion against the inboard pleat of the longitudinal fill chamber portion of the airbag cushion.

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